

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

- 5 A method and system for providing a secure time reference when storing data to a storage medium using write once read many (WORM) protection are provided. The method includes receiving a message, determining a message digest, appending a published time from a digital time stamping service to the message digest to create a timestamp, and digitally signing the timestamp with a private key of the digital time stamping service. The message, the timestamp, and the digital signature are stored to the medium using write once read many (WORM) protection.